

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

May 20, 2009

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Jack Black
Commissioner Jim Daniel
Commissioner Rick Hall
Commissioner A. Johnson
Commissioner Robert Peay
Commissioner Doug Shafer
Commissioner Gary Farley, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess Bart Smith
Tommy Brown Lynn Duke
Dan Goode Alan Miller
Roger Allen Joe Pennington
Tracy Hill Mary Schneider
Truman Jones Regina Nelson
Mike Nunley Mike Phillips
Bob Asbury Becky Shelton

Chairman Farley presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with six members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Shafer moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the minutes of the last meeting as mailed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

RUTHERFORD RESCUE SQUAD REPORT:

Joe Pennington presented the Rutherford Rescue Squad report for the use and information of the Committee. Chairman Farley inquired if there had been any times the Squad had not been available and Mr. Pennington advised only once for about five minutes. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Daniel moved, seconded by Commissioner Peay, to accept the Rutherford Rescue Squad report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Regina Nelson presented the Sheriff's Department report for the use and information of the Committee. The Committee was first provided budget amendments of \$2,800 from Account #54110-140 (Sal Supplement) and \$2,200 from Account #54110-312 (Cont w Private) with \$5,000 to Account #54110-307 (Communication; \$20,000 from Account #54110-187 (Overtime) to Account #54210-187 (Overtime); \$2,000 from Account #54210-189 (Salaries) to Account #54210-169 (Part Time); \$500 from Account #122-54160-196 (InService) to Account #122-54160-599 (Other Charge) and \$28,438 increase to Account #122-49700 (Ins Recovery) and Account #122-54150-718 (Vehicles). Following discussion,

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the budget amendment of \$2,800 from Account #54110-140 (Sal Supplement) and \$2,200 from Account #54110-312 (Cont w Private) with \$5,000 to Account #54110-307 (Communication; \$20,000 from Account #54110-187 (Overtime) to Account #54210-187 (Overtime); \$2,000 from Account #54210-189 (Salaries) to Account #54210-169 (Part Time); \$500 from Account #122-54160-196 (InService) to Account #122-54160-599 (Other Charge) and \$28,438 increase to Account #122-49700 (Ins Recovery) and Account #122-54150-718 (Vehicles). This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

The Committee was next provided information on the line item accounts. Following review,

"Commissioner Black moved, seconded by Commissioner Daniel, to approve the line item report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY REPORT:

Roger Allen presented the Emergency Management Agency report for the use and information of the Committee. The Committee discussed

whether the training being offered by EMA to the volunteer fire departments was being used sufficiently. The Committee discussed the fact there is a lot of training in the various departments and it was felt the training attendance would pick up. In the meeting with the Chiefs a year ago, the main needs were help with insurance and training. The insurance has not worked out and it does not appear training is being utilized or either the training is not in the correct areas. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Daniel moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the Emergency Management Agency report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Allen next presented a revised agreement with the Fire Departments advising there had been concern about the 120 hours of training required in the contract. The Firefighter Commission only requires 40 hours of training so paragraph 6 of the agreement has been changed to recommend a minimum of 40 hours training per year for all responding personnel who engage in structural firefighting. The Committee discussed the fact that the various departments probably do more training per year than 40 hours anyway and the ultimate responsibility falls on the Chiefs. Following discussion,

"Commissioner A. Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Black, to support the change in paragraph 6 of the Fire Department Agreement. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Allen next presented a proposed budget amendment of \$2,500 from Account #101-58900-425 (Misc/Gasoline) to Account #101-54430-425 (Emergency Mgmt/Gasoline). Following discussion,

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Daniel, to approve the budget amendment of \$2,500 from Account #101-58900-425 (Misc/Gasoline) to Account #101-54430-425 (Emergency Mgmt/Gasoline). This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

Mr. Allen next reported he had been in error at the last meeting when he advised Box 100 had self-dispatched during the tornado disaster as they were dispatched and responded properly.

Commissioner Peay advised it had been reported at the Budget Committee that the volunteer fire departments had agreed to accept the insurance previously procured by the County. Mayor Burgess advised he wanted a statement in writing with instructions on what the volunteer fire departments wanted the County to do and wanted the same signed by the Association, Chiefs and Board of Directors that all were on board and then the matter would be taken under advisement. Mr. Allen is to pass this information on to the volunteer agencies.

PAWS REPORT:

Tracy Hill presented the PAWS report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the PAWS report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

DRUG COURT REPORT:

Mary Schneider next presented the Drug Court report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner A. Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Daniel, to approve the Drug Court report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Ms. Schneider next advised she would like to apply for a \$500,000 family court grant which required in-kind match of \$283,000 over three years. The building can be part of the match and the building has been valued at \$225,000 so Ms. Schneider may need \$50,000 over the three year period to have enough for the in kind match. The Committee was advised the DUI grant was preferred and a grant can

always be turned down. Ms. Schneider advised the building can be used as in kind match for both grants if awarded.

"Commissioner A. Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Shafer, to allow the application for the family court grant. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Commissioner Hall questioned if Ms. Schneider could use the Community Learning Center as part of the in kind match and Ms. Schneider will check on this.

Mayor Burgess advised Ms. Schneider is to continue due diligence to see if the program would be used to the full extent possible before accepting the grant.

WHEEL TAX OFFICER'S REPORT:

Bart Smith presented the Wheel Tax Officer's report for the use and information of the Committee advising upon checking the information provided by the two adjoining counties thirteen violations were found and he has sent certified letters to them to comply. If they do not comply, Mr. Smith will take the violaters to Court. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the Wheel Tax Officer's report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

JUVENILE DETENTION REPORT:

Lynn Duke presented the Juvenile Detention report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Daniel moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the Juvenile Detention report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Ms. Duke next presented a proposed budget amendment of \$6,700 from Account #101-54240-340 (Medical/Dental Services) with \$5,200 to Account #101-54240-499 (Other Supplies/Materials), \$1,245 to Account #101-54240-187 (Overtime Pay), \$77 to Account #101-54240-201 (Social Security), \$160 to Account #101-54240-204 (State Retirement) and \$18 to Account #101-54240-212 (Employer Medicare). Following discussion,

"Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Daniel, to approve the budget amendment of \$6,700 from Account #101-54240-340 (Medical/Dental Services) with \$5,200 to Account #101-54240-499 (Other Supplies/Materials), \$1,245 to Account #101-54240-187 (Overtime Pay), \$77 to Account #101-54240-201 (Social Security), \$160 to Account #101-54240-204 (State Retirement) and \$18 to Account #101-54240-212 (Employer Medicare). This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

OSHA REPORT:

Dan Goode presented the OSHA report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner A. Johnson moved, seconded by Commissioner Daniel, to approve the OSHA report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

AMBULANCE SERVICE REPORT:

Mike Nunley presented the Ambulance Service report for the use and information of the Committee. The Committee discussed a recent situation where the equipment of Rutherford Rescue failed and the SORT team had to help with extrication. Mayor Burgess advised there had been two recent situations where the SORT team had to back up the Rutherford Rescue Squad because of equipment failure. Commissioner Hall advised tools are needed on the trucks. Mr. Nunley advised there is a problem with extrication in the County and he plans to pursue grants after the budget is finalized to put tools on the volunteer fire department trucks.

Mr. Nunley also advised during the last month two stations were shut down due to a shortage in manpower. The Committee questioned why Mr. Nunley didn't pay overtime and was advised he was trying to get to year end within his budget. It is more economical to use part time personnel but they are better suited for vacation fill in because they work elsewhere and have to schedule and plan to do the part time work. When employees call in sick it is hard to fill the position because there is no notice. Mr. Nunley advised the transport team is being used to run 911 calls. Additionally, Mr. Nunley is limiting part-time personnel to two per day to stay within his budget. The Committee was advised this will be a recurring problem. The Committee discussed the fact the SORT team had to take up slack for the Rescue Squad in extrications while the Ambulance Service was having to shut down stations. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Shafer, to approve the Ambulance Service report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Commissioner Shafer next advised at the Budget Committee \$172,000 was restored to the proposed budget for supervisory positions and questioned how the Mayor's recommended budget was agreed to when the department cannot keep up with mandated regulations on leave. Mr. Nunley advised the budget process goes from January to June and the budget changes during that time period. Accordingly, the budget presented at the Budget Committee was different. Mayor Burgess advised he knows the Ambulance Service is stretched and they are trying to save the five entry level positions. The Ambulance Service has 21 supervisory/management positions and 91 paraprofessional positions. It is hoped through attrition this will be lightened and the Committee will continue to discuss the problem.

Mr. Nunley advised he has recommended cutting three supervisor positions in the north end of the County. Chairman Farley advised he disagreed with this as he felt someone needed to be in command but likewise he did not want to micromanage the department.

CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER REPORT:

Alan Miller presented the Correctional Work Center report for the use and information of the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner A. Johnson, to approve the Correctional Work Center report as presented. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

Mr. Miller next presented a proposed budget amendment of \$1,000 from Account #101-54220-340 (Medical/Dental Services), \$5,000 from Account #101-54220-413 (Drugs/Medical Supplies) and \$17,300 from Account #101-54220-160 (Guards) with \$23,000 to Account #101-54220-399

(Other Contracted Services) and \$300 to Account #101-54220-307 (Communications). Following discussion,

"Commissioner Peay moved, seconded by Commissioner Daniel, to approve the budget amendment of \$1,000 from Account #101-54220-340 (Medical/Dental Services), \$5,000 from Account #101-54220-413 (Drugs/Medical Supplies) and \$17,300 from Account #101-54220-160 (Guards) with \$23,000 to Account #101-54220-399 (Other Contracted Services) and \$300 to Account #101-54220-307 (Communications). This motion passed unanimously by roll call vote."

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Farley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

GARY FARLEY, Chairman